A medium term export strategy has been announced for the period 2002-07 which aims at achieving 1% of world exports by the year 2006-07. Besides these, Exim Policy for 2002-07 announced recently incorporates a number of measures to pro-actively promote exports which *inter alia* include operationalising Special Economic Zones, reimbursement of admissible expenditure for export of certain agricultural products, development of centres of export excellence, additional support for electronic hardware exports and further reduction in transaction cost.

Flower auction centre in Bangalore

4267. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of enormous potential to grow flowers in and around Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to develop international Flower Auction Centre in Bangalore; and

(c) what facilities have been extended by the Central Government to improve floriculture in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) A *feasibility* report on establishment of Flower Auction Centre at Bangalore was commissioned by Agicultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA). Based on this, Government has approved the proposal for providing financial assistance by APEDA to the Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation (KAIC) for setting up of a wholesale market-cum-auction centre for flowers at Bangalore. Further APEDA has also provided cold storage and cargo handling facility at Bangalore Airport.

Export of wheat to Bangladesh

4268. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has exported wheat to Bangladesh during the last one year;

(b) if so, the quantity sold and the price charged;

(c) whether India has exported wheat to some other countries also; and

(d) if so, what are the names of the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) and (b) The total quantity and value of export of wheat to Bangladesh during the last one year has been as under:—

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. crores)
2000-01(P)	2,28,159	117.80
2001-02(P) (April—January 2002)	6,92,382	338.48

(Source: DGCI & S, Kolkata)
(P: Provisional)

(c) and (d) Some of the other countries to which wheat has been exported include UAE, Philippines, Vietnam Soc. Rep., Yemen Republic, Kuwait, Iraq, Singapore, Sudan, Oman, Bahrain and Myanmar etc.

Discussion with US Deputy Treasury Secretary on Textiles

4269. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has sought better deal for textiles at a meeting with the US Deputy Treasury Secretary in the month of February, 2002;

(b) if so, what were the main points stressed during the discussion for textile deals; and

(c) to what extent the US has agreed to examine all the points in regard to the textiles that have been raised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The United States Deputy Treasury Secretary paid a courtesy call on the Union Minister of Commerce & Industry in the month of February 2002. As the US Deputy Treasury Secretary is not the authority that deals with trade matters, issues relating to textiles were not discussed during this meeting.